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CCP REPORTS FOOD PRODUCTION,
EVIDENCES OF FARM MECHANIZATION;
KIANGSU IMPROVES COTTON STRAIN

ESTIMATES CHINA'S WHEAT CROP -- Hong Kong Wen-hui Pao, 4 Jul 50

Peiping, 3 July (Hsin-hua) -- The wheat harvest has now been completed in most of China and the 1950 yield compares favorably with 1949. A total of 375 million mou was devoted to wheat, 30 million more than 1949, and preliminary estimates indicate that the yield will reach 40 billion catties, or 6.6 billion catties more than 1949.

Contributing to the increased production in all districts were the abundance of rainfall, the increased use of fertilizer, prompt calamity-prevention measures, and more attentive crop cultivation by the masses.

EAST CHINA REPORTS WHEAT HARVEST -- Shang-hai Chieh-fang Jih-pao, 24 May 50

In 1950 the East China District planted a total of 120,000,000 mou in wheat. Except for a few areas in which spring rains were too heavy, the harvest has been uniformly good and is now being placed on the market.

Shantung Province placed 45 million mou under wheat cultivation, of which 330,000 mou suffered damage from excessive rainfall. The remainder averaged 130 catties per mou.

The North Kiangsu District planted 27,600,000 mou in wheat and had a harvest of 67 percent of an optimum yield.

The North Anhwei District planted 27 million mou and the South Anhwei District, 1,500,000. Approximately 80 percent of the harvest has already been placed on the market.

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The South Kiangsu District planted 10,200,000 mou and had a harvest of 60 percent, despite the development of disease among the plants.

Chekiang placed 9 million mou of wheat under cultivation, averaging 110 catties per mou. Fukien, breaking a 20-year record, averaged 140 catties per mou.

INNER MONGOLIA PRODUCES MILLION TONS OF FOOD -- New York Hua-ch'iao Jih-pao,
2 Jun 50

Peiping, 23 May (Hsin-hua) -- In 1949, despite encountering various natural calamities, the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region was able to produce 1,100,000 tons of foodstuffs. According to present population estimates, this allows 1,000 catties of foodstuffs per person, representing a great improvement in the livelihood of the people.

NORTHEAST FARMERS WELCOME IMPROVED MACHINERY -- New York Hua-ch'iao Jih-pao,
20 Jul 50

Mukden, 6 July (Hsin-hua) -- A total of 43,000 improved cultivating implements has been distributed in the Northeast area this year during the period of summer cultivation. This shatters all precedents in the agricultural villages since the liberation.

Sixteen types of improved cultivating implements were distributed throughout the district in 1950. These are of special importance because they can conserve manpower, heighten efficiency, and raise 1950 food production considerably.

A total of 17,000 high-frame cultivators, well suited to local agricultural conditions, is being distributed throughout Kirin Province this summer. These machines save the work of three men in the cultivation of a 10-mou plot. Farmers in Heilungkiang also welcome the widespread distribution of Fu-min trade mark cultivators, which operate at about the same efficiency.

More than 7,200 Ch'un-chung trade mark weeders have been distributed throughout the district, where they will be of great use. These farm machines can save the work of four to six men in the weeding of a 10-mou plot. Three of the machines may be used together.

Since large lots of this improved farming equipment have been distributed, many mutual assistance teams (hu-chu tsu) completed their first weeding earlier than in recent years and they can all realize the need for many more weedings. A team in Kirin used two-way cultivators in the summer project and completed its initial weeding 6 days earlier than in recent years. It also saved the labor of 160 men and 40 horses.

In distributing this improved farm machinery, cadre leaders in the various hsiens and ch'us first make an examination to determine the quality, quantity, and general characteristics of the equipment. When they release the machinery, they go out to the agricultural villages and make trial distribution. This process has been well received by farm people everywhere. The various provincial people's governments have strived to build up technical leadership in the field of improved machinery, which the farmers use in their summer cultivation, by establishing short-term training courses for large groups of ch'u-level cadres prior to the summer cultivation. More than 800 have been trained in Sungkiang and Heilungkiang provinces.

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TRACTOR FARM USES SOVIET MACHINES -- Tientsin Jih-pao, 25 May 50

The State mechanized farm at Kao-li Ch'u, Hopeh, under the control of the Po-hai Agricultural Control Bureau, after a bad start in 1949 owing to lack of good technicians and proper equipment, has undertaken to open up uncultivated alkali land on the coast of the Gulf of Hopei.

The farm secured 12 Soviet STZ and ATZ type 52-horsepower tractors, 8 Ford 12-horsepower Victory tractors, four Mai-ssu [trade mark] 14-horsepower tractors, and 97 disc harrows, spiketooth harrows, seeders, mowers, and self-propelled combines. Fifty-six experienced drivers were secured and organized into four groups.

During the 40 days from 21 March to 30 April these outfits were run on a three-shift 24-hour program with tractors operating 21 hours out of the 24. Over 30,000 mou of land were plowed to a depth of 6 inches and more than 10,000 mou were harrowed.

To secure the best results from Soviet agricultural techniques, the following measures will be taken:

1. The farm will work a three-shift, 24-hour schedule with two men on the heavy tractors and one on the lighter. A record book shall be provided for each tractor in which at the turn of each shift shall be recorded the amount of ground worked, fuel and oil consumption, damage to machines, etc. Heavy tractors should plow 7 inches deep, with a gasoline consumption of 2.5 catties per mou. Light tractors should plow 5 inches deep and consume not more than 2 catties of gasoline per mou. The plowing should be straight, even and complete, with no overlap. Field ends should be even and narrow.

2. Each machine shall have one to 1½ hours of rest each 24-hour period and one cursory inspection and one thorough inspection each week. Careful records shall be kept of all repairs to machines.

3. Tractor operators shall not run them without a load, and shall not start and stop the tractors at will. When on a hill, crossing ditches, and when standing, the throttle shall be cut; the engine shall not be carelessly raced. Tractors shall not be driven forward when the machines they pull are not in order. No parts or oil products may be used without permission of the crew foreman. Soviet tractors outclass American in durability, economy and amount of work that may be turned out.

The following shortcomings are now evident in Chinese tractor farming: (1) disparity in the depths of plowing; operators do not yet sufficiently appreciate the value of deep plowing; they are careless about the ends and edges of fields; (2) poor and dilatory inspection, and insufficient greasing, causing unnecessary wear; (3) improper combination of implements, resulting in waste; (4) shortage of repair tools and equipment; and (5) operators have little sense of responsibility for equipment.

The leaders have set up a competitive program involving (1) holding breakdowns to a minimum, (2) saving fuel, (3) mutual good will and helpfulness between teams and within teams, and (4) completion of production targets on time.

NEARLY MILLION MOU MORE THAN IN 1949 -- Yangchow Su-pei Jih-pao, 26 May 50

Cotton farmers throughout Northern Kiangsu have practically completed their cotton-planting movement. In Ch'i-tung and Hai-men, the cotton sprouts have already grown to an inch or more. In certain parts of Yen-ch'eng and other areas where calamity and famine have been severe or the soil and climate

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are unfavorable, another week will be needed to finish the planting. The planted area this year is estimated at 3,443,700 mou, or 943,000 mou more than 1949, which nearly satisfies the original plan to increase the planted area by one million mou.

Plans have been formulated to select the best from mixed seed to promote the growth of pure strains of cotton. The Bureau for Reclaiming Cotton Land (mien-k'en chu) has specified the following areas as administrative centers for the planting of Tai-tzu and Te-tzu pure cotton strains: (a) 14 villages in Chueh-tung Ch'u, Ju-tung Hsien, and San-yu Ch'u, Nan-t'ung Hsien; (b) seven villages in K'en-nan Ch'u and Ta-chung Ch'u, T'ai-pei Hsien.

The yield from this area of about 262,044 mou is expected to be about 212,522 piculs, of which 126,000 piculs of seed can be obtained by ginning. Assuming that 8 catties of seed must be planted per mou, the 1951 planting of pure-strain seeds can be expanded by 1,500,000 mou and, within 2-3 years, all the cotton fields in Northern Kiangsu will be planted in the superior type of seed.

In some areas, food land has been given over to the cultivation of cotton. Propaganda is being disseminated to counteract the feelings among cotton farmers that "you can't exchange cotton for food" and "cotton is cheap while food is expensive." To alleviate the shortage of food, commonly characteristic of the cotton areas, the government has released large quantities of relief provisions.

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